

B. Claims

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1-73. (Cancelled)

74. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a complex formed between an oligonucleotide having a known base sequence as a probe and an object component capable of binding to the oligonucleotide, for determining whether the object component is contained in each of at least two liquid test samples, comprising the steps of:

- (i) preparing a detection substrate having a plurality of square sections, ~~each square section having a side length from 500 µm to 6 mm~~, wherein the square sections are arranged in a matrix form on a solid substrate ~~having no walls partitioning the sections~~, with the sections fixing plural types of oligonucleotides having known base sequences different from one another in such a manner that one type of oligonucleotide is present at a uniform surface density in each said square section;
- (ii) spotting a predetermined liquid amount of each of the test samples in the each section in such a manner that individual spots in the each section are sufficiently spaced from each other to conduct a complex-forming reaction between the oligonucleotide and the object component in each spot; and
- (iii) detecting whether a complex formed between the oligonucleotide and the object component is present or not in the each spot.

75. (Previously Presented) The detection method according to claim 74, wherein the predetermined liquid amount of each of the test samples is spotted in the step (ii) so that spot positions in the each section are arranged in the same way as one another.

76. (Previously Presented) The detection method according to claim 74, wherein each spot of the test samples is formed by supplying the predetermined liquid amount of each of the test samples by an ink-jet method.

77. (Currently Amended) The detection method according to claim 74, wherein [[the]] a side length of the square section is 2 mm.

78. (New) The detection method according to claim 74, wherein a density of the square sections is 400 oligonucleotides per centimeter square or less.